

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE REPORT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE PACIFIC HALIBUT CATCH SHARING PLAN FOR THE 2025 FISHERY

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) solicited public input via e-mail, phone, and a public meeting hosted in Newport, Oregon¹ on October 2, which was webcast, to discuss proposed changes to the Pacific halibut (halibut in remainder of report) Catch Sharing Plan (CSP) forwarded by the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) during the September Council meeting. Six members of the public attended the meeting in person, eight participated remotely, and others reached out via phone and email to provide feedback for the 2025 sport halibut fisheries. ODFW considered the public input and provides the following information for consideration by the Council in determining which alternatives to adopt for the 2025 halibut fishery. In general, Oregon sport anglers support adding flexibility into the CSP and increasing opportunity.

Proposed Changes for the 2025 Catch Sharing Plan

Central Oregon Coast Subarea

Oregon sport anglers voiced their approval of all five of the following proposals for the Central Oregon Coast subarea. Adding more flexibility to the CSP will allow better utilization of the quota and provide anglers additional opportunity to harvest halibut. For more information regarding the Central Oregon Coast proposals and draft CSP language, please see [Agenda Item F.1.a, ODFW Report 1, September 2024](#). **ODFW recommends adopting the options below in the CSP.**

Option 1: If Regulatory Area 2A FCEY is 1,200,000 lbs. or greater, allocate 10,000 pounds of sub-quota to the Central Oregon Coast nearshore fishery and shift the remaining sub-quota to the Central Oregon Coast subarea all-depth seasons.

Option 2: Remove language from the CSP limiting the Central Oregon Coast subarea all-depth seasons to a two or three-day opener per week.

Option 3: Start the Central Oregon Coast subarea summer all-depth fishery on August 1 instead of the first Thursday in August.

Option 4: If the entire Central Oregon Coast subarea quota is below 50,000 pounds prior to August 1, the summer all-depth season will be open every other week.

Option 5: If the entire Central Oregon Coast subarea quota is 30,000 pounds or greater following Labor Day Weekend, the summer all-depth season will be open every week.

Columbia River Subarea

Oregon sport anglers are also in favor of the Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife proposal for the Columbia River subarea to replace Tuesdays with Fridays as the all-depth fishing days in this subarea, please see [Agenda Item F.1.a, Supplemental WDFW Report 1, September 2024](#). **Therefore, ODFW recommends adopting that proposed change into the CSP.**

¹ https://www.dfw.state.or.us/news/2024/09_Sep/091924.asp